

City of Evansville Common Council
Regular Meeting
City Hall, 31 S Madison St, Evansville WI 53536
Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. **Call to order:** by Mayor Duggan at 6:04 p.m.
2. **Roll call:**

Members	Present/Absent	Others Present
Aldersperson, Jim Brooks – arrived 6:10	P	City Administrator, Jason Sergeant
Aldersperson, Cory Neeley	P	Deputy Clerk, Leah Hurlley
Aldersperson, Ben Corridon	P	Library Director, Megan Kloeckner
Mayor, Dianne Duggan	P	Treasurer/City Accountant, Julie Roberts
Aldersperson, Ben Ladick	A	Attorney, Mark Kopp
Aldersperson, Susan Becker	P	Evansville Today, Bill Lathrop
Aldersperson, Gene Lewis	P	
Aldersperson, Joy Morrison	P	
Aldersperson, Erika Stuart	P	

3. **Motion to approve the agenda, by Neeley, seconded by Morrison, Motion carried 7-0**
4. **Motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the September 13th, 2022 Regular Meeting and September 22nd, 2022 Special Budget Meeting and approve as presented, by Ladick, seconded by Stuart. Motion carried 7-0**
5. **Civility reminder**
6. **Citizen appearances other than agenda items listed.**
7. Reports of Committees
 - A. Library Board Report – Meagan shared written report
 - General Updates
 - The Racine County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to approve the library system merger. Walworth County will vote tonight.
 - Programming Updates
 - Jim Lattis, the Director of UW Space Place, will be here on Thursday at 6:00 PM to give a presentation on the current night sky. He will cover what we should watch for and how to observe it. He will also discuss upcoming astronomical events and tips for amateur observers.
 - Teens will be working on a Haunted Library program. The event will be held on Thursday, October 27 at 6:00 PM for all ages.

- Through September, we have offered 94 programs with a total attendance of 1,960.
 - We've also offered 108 self-directed activities with a total participation of 3,257.

B. Parks and Recreation Board Report

Lewis discussed weed spraying program, Small flags as notice of chemical spraying next year. Morrison questioned use of flags to post notice. Lathrop shared research that businesses & municipalities may not be required to post notices as they are not residents.

Lewis reported on the Senior project – fish nets in the lake. And on the general discussion on dam and pool updates.

C. Plan Commission Report – Duggan shared the Brown School Road property has a new owner Derreck Allen & Andy Phillips and changes to site plan expected, revised conditional use permits approved.

D. Finance and Labor Relations Committee Report

- 1) **Motion to accept the September 2022 City bills as presented in the amount of \$2,533,547.41, by Corridon, seconded by Brooks. Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0**

Morrison asked if Roberts was able to research attorney fees for public works. Roberts will follow up with more information.

- 2) **Motion to approve the Joint Powers Agreement between Rock County and the City of Evansville, by Brooks, seconded by Morrison. Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0**

Corridon questioned limits on outside jurisdiction and requested additional details. Discussion occurred on the mutual aid requirements in the agreement.

- 3) **Motion to approve the proposal from Kontext Architects for professional services relating to the warming house located at Leonard Leota Park in the amount of \$7,100, by Brooks, seconded by Corridon. Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0**

Neeley noted that the line items total \$7090, not \$7100. Sergeant replied he consulted with attorney & asked for corrected document. The updated document correct the spelling of “City” and project manager / project administration, but not the dollars. Sergeant detailed the purpose is to develop schematics and begin work before the “snow flies”. Park maintenance budget does have funds to cover costs if Antes Fund doesn't cover it.

Stuart asked if the contract limit is \$7100. Sergeant confirmed.

- 4) **Motion to approve a Capital Campaign Charitable Fund agreement with the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, Inc, by Brooks, seconded by Corridon. Motion carried by roll call vote 8-0**

Sergeant summarized the proposed agreement and clarified a revision might be required after CFSW's Executive Director returns from sabbatical. The agreement allows agency to accept and hold donated funds for a 5% fee. Target donation goal \$1.7 million

Becker asked how smaller donations will be accepted. Sergeant replied that payments coming in by check or cash will be given directly to the City. CFSW would likely have to process digital donations online. Neeley asked how much can the city expect vs CFSW. Sergeant clarified the goal is direct donations to the city.

Becker asked if there was a way to negotiate a lower rate. Sergeant indicated this is a possibility but would slow down the approval timeline.

5) 2023 Budget Discussion

Sergeant shared state numbers are coming in. Transportation looks better. Accounting/auditing budget increased based on auditor recommendations. Legal fees are increasing slightly. Court, no change; revenue flat. Public works- vehicle registration fees will increase, as will road maintenance. Budget changes primarily driven by wages. Overall up by ½ million dollars driven by debt taken on. Currently under levy limit. Waiting on state. Dump truck plow price increased, something has to be reduced or removed in CIP.

Overall, water is a little under. Electric is \$40k over. Budgeting for potential conservative rate increase for 2023. State numbers, police contract, CIP, 'pretend math' to calculate Mill Rate of \$.52 increase. COLA across the board in this budget 3.75%, increase from historic 2.25% annual increase, due to outside pressures.

E. Public Safety Committee Report

Chief checked into noise ordinance regarding bell-ringing incident, the recommendation of the committee was to ensure the ordinance covers such issues, should the situation occur again.

He also reported new equipment for new squad has arrived. Install scheduled for Oct 24. Chevy Tahoe went for service on the 5th. Police Commission met on Sept 19th. Promoted Officer Lomax to full time. 51 traffic stops, no WI, shots fired.

EMS report – 59 calls in Sept, 1 less than 2021. Mutual aid call to Footville.

Recruiting – 50 new graduates at Blackhawk Tech

Noted that Sergeant is working to expand garage door to improve ambulance access

F. Municipal Services Report

Brooks – electric rate case, documents submitted to PSC, expect a 6 week delay for a response from PSC, update on Lake Leota Dam Project & municipal garage. AMI project continues @ 206. Lead service lateral. Liberty St project. Community funds. Public power open house, door prizes at W&L on Thursday.

Question - When does public comment period happen for rate case. Answer: after PSC response. "One of the last things that happens"

G. Economic Development Committee

Brooks shared discussion about façade improvement grant to make it more attractive. Committee doesn't get asked very often for grant money.

H. Youth Center Advisory Board Report

Corridon mentioned safety issues, one side of the front door has been locked for several years because the door doesn't sit properly. Also walls are cracked. Director is researching door replacement & wall repair.

Fundraising – dodgeball/kickball game

Pending discussions about long term goal & potential capital campaign for a new space.

I. Historic Preservation Commission

Lewis shared applications and discussions included fences; 120 College Dr windows; 38 W Main – updates put on hold, windows, door, porch; 104 Garfield windows; 335 W Main – fence 'tabled', roof gutters "tabled"; EMS – application for door, issues with people coming in.

Becker asked what day/time for Historic Preservation? Answer: 3rd Wednesday. Suggestion to mail out reminder.

Sergeant commented that annual report of approvals & denials, summary of annual expenses is sent to every property. Suggestion & discussion re: post notice on web page and Special assessment notice?.

J. Fire District Report – did meet to discuss budget. Spaghetti dinner.

K. Police Commission Report – PC did meet. Lomax was approved for full-time

L. Energy Independence Team Report – will be Nov 2nd, 7:30 am

M. Board of Appeals Report – did not meet

8. Unfinished Business –

Discussion occurred about the Board of Review and property revaluations by assessor. There was many question, phone calls & voice mails. 25 residents asked in-person, 20 via phone. 2 submitted requests for review, 1 settled prior to hearing, BOR confirmed assessor (denied resident)

9. Communications and Recommendations of the Administrator-

Site selection process continues for a highly confidential approx. 150 acres \$100 mil, 2023 construction estimate. 90-120 days. Staff has done great job - expecting decision by 12/31/2022. Cautiously optimistic.

Offers tendered for EMS & City Clerk candidates, both were accepted. Contracts to be finalized for Carolyn & Leah.

Contracts – police negotiations for union, tentative agreement resolved soon. Baker St consultants contract expires 12/31/2022. In discussion to extend contract until May 2023, discount rate for remaining 4 months of 2022.

Temporary office help. Auditors found issues with bank rec process. Bev is making good progress. They will train new person on process once it's complete.

Duggan asked if council needs to be concerned with bank rec issues? Sergeant replied that issues are content and not process.

Neeley – where are we with allocations? Accounting software launch 2023 will be helpful.

10. Communications and Recommendations of the Mayor
11. Duggan observations-tough budget & upcoming changes can be difficult for individuals to navigate calmly & respectfully. Reminder to step up & step in if a situation becomes tense.
12. New Business
13. Introduction of New Ordinances
 - A. First reading of Ordinance # 2022-13, An Ordinance Rezoning Territory from Local Business District (B-1) to Community Business District (B-3) (On Parcel 6-27-559.5170)
 - B. First reading of Ordinance # 2022-14, An Ordinance Replacing Section 126-191 of the Municipal Code for the City of Evansville
14. Upcoming Meeting Reminder: Regular Common Council Meeting, Tuesday, November 8th, 2022, at 6:00 pm.
15. **Motion to Adjourn at 7 pm, by Becker, seconded by Ladick. Motion passed 8-0.**

Dianne C. Duggan, Mayor